

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, last evening I received a phone call from a friend from my congressional district who now lives here in the District. We spoke extensively, but painfully, about the pitiful action taken in this body yesterday.

We denied unemployment benefits to American citizens who, through no fault of their own, became victims of the worst recession in U.S. history. They lost their jobs.

This, for me, was a very, very low point. The Senate has failed to approve summer jobs for youth, as well as emergency TANF relief, temporary assistance for families in need.

Mr. Speaker, when I came to the Congress, I didn't sign up to make a mess but to make a difference. We are damaging the lives of men and women and, painfully, it is for political reasons. I went home last night ashamed of being in this body.

#### FEDERAL SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Federal spending is out of control, and the American people know it. \$13 trillion national debt, a \$1.4 trillion deficit this year, an 84 percent increase in non-defense discretionary spending since this administration took office. The Democrat majority's answer so far this year, no budget.

To answer this extraordinary fiscal crisis by refusing to lead is unacceptable. After a year of avoiding hard choices, now we hear the latest Democrat plan is actually to bring a budget resolution to the floor in some procedural motion known as "deeming."

Well, Mr. Speaker, you can't deem a budget that you never passed. The American people long for leadership in Washington, D.C., that's willing to sit down across party lines and face the fiscal and economic crisis of this country head on with hard choices. We can't get this economy moving again until we get Washington, D.C., under control.

I urge my colleagues, reject this phony baloney deeming of the budget. Let's sit down. Let's face our fiscal crisis head on. Give the American people the kind of leadership they want and deserve.

#### LET'S PUT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FIRST

(Mr. DRIEHAUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, in 2002 Representative Stephanie Tubbs Jones introduced legislation to crack down on predatory lending and subprime bor-

rowers. Acting then to protect American homeowners could have helped prevent the foreclosure crisis, which led to the financial crisis, which led to the deepest recession in generations.

But instead of acting in 2002 or 2003 or every other year they controlled Congress and the White House, my Republican colleagues stood by and did nothing. We can now clearly see the result of that inaction.

This week we will take long overdue steps as we vote on the most sweeping reform of our financial system since the Great Depression. Instead of leaving decisions about our financial system in the hands of Wall Street bankers, this legislation will curb the risky practices and fix the systemic flaws that brought our economy to the brink. Instead of allowing predatory lending and dangerous speculation to go unchecked, these reforms will provide real protections for Americans looking to invest or to buy a home.

We cannot undo the failures of past leadership, but we can help prevent another economic crisis like this one. By passing the Wall Street reform conference report, we can chart a new course that puts America first.

#### CONDEMNING THE IRANIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

(Mr. ROSKAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, on display in Jerusalem at the Yad Vashem museum, the Holocaust museum, amidst all the pain and suffering and murder and turmoil, are German schoolbooks from the 1930s that display an attitude that was getting pumped into young Germans through their educational system. And as fearful and as loathsome as that is, there is the same thing that's happening in Iran today.

The Iranian educational system has excerpts that suggest that martyrdom is praiseworthy, and it urges children to welcome it. It is laced with anti-Semitism, anti-Israeli sentiment, and anti-Western sentiment.

I'm introducing a resolution today that condemns that, calls upon us to focus on it, and urges the administration to consider that as it interacts with Iran, particularly on these sanctions. I urge my colleagues to join me.

#### THE WALL STREET REFORM BILL

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, 8 million jobs gone; \$17 trillion in savings gone; Americans' faith in their system gone. Why? Because mortgages that came in 31 flavors of insanity got bought by Americans who couldn't afford them. Banks tied them in a bow and put AAA ratings on them, and then the billion dollar betting really started. The Wall

Street reform bill that we have crafted addresses every one of the links in that chain of madness.

Yesterday, the minority leader called the reform killing an ant with a nuclear weapon. Mr. Speaker, I'm a human being, so I know that 8 million jobs lost and \$17 trillion in savings gone is not an ant.

Mr. Speaker, I worked years in the financial services industry, so I know that this reform is not a nuclear weapon. It is a critical and essential mechanism to restore the faith of the American people in their system and the prosperity that will follow.

#### WALL STREET REFORM

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, it's pretty clear that there's a difference between Democrats and Republicans and their attitude toward the economy. Democrats want an economy that works for everyone. Republicans want an economy that works for Wall Street banks, that works for insurance companies, and works for big oil companies.

The greatest evidence of that was just mentioned by my colleague from Connecticut; the minority leader's statement that the reform package that we're proposing to pass for Wall Street is like killing an ant with a nuclear weapon. Goldman Sachs is an ant? AIG is an ant? Bank of America is an ant? These are ants with an awfully big appetite, because they chewed up \$17 trillion worth of American citizens' net worth.

No, we can't let ants this dangerous loose on our economy. We have to propose reasonable regulations, and that's what we're doing. We want to make sure that the American economy works for every American and not just for the people on Wall Street.

#### EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS NOW

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is a shame and a disgrace that we did not extend unemployment insurance. Every single Member who voted "no" yesterday should be ashamed of themselves.

People are suffering. They are hurting. They are in pain. They cannot make ends meet. And too many, just too many on the other side of the aisle turned a deaf ear.

I ask my Republican colleagues: Can't you hear? Can't you feel? Can't you see? Where is your heart? Where is your compassion? Where is your concern?

Extend unemployment benefits, and extend it now.